

Frustrations

I don't live near a NARA facility where I can get more personalized help. How can I get that kind of service online?

I don't have a subscription to Ancestry.com, but it seems like I need one to get what I want easily.

Why can't I just plug in a name to access my ancestor's records?

What I need is available on your microfilm, but I can only find microfilm roll lists or indexes on your site, not the records.

Desired Features

Mobile-Friendly

Slightly Important

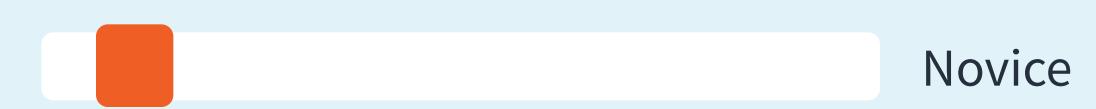
National Archives Catalog

Slightly Important

Consistent Look and Feel

Very Important

Technical Expertise



Devices Used





The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration www.archives.gov/digitalstrategy/personas

Goal

I am looking for records that will help me learn about my family history.

User Stories

I want to find out about my family history, but I have no idea how to start.

I want to find out what records NARA has so that I can research my family history.

I want to find out how I can search for my family history online, so I don't have to travel.

I want to find my grandparents in the 1920 and 1930 censuses, so I can find out who their parents were.

I want to find my great-great-grandfather's Civil War service records and then see if his wife received a widow's pension at his death so that I can gain new insights about the family.

I want to find the arrival of my great-grandparents in the New York passenger lists so that I can add their immigration dates to my timeline of their lives.

I want to find my great-great-grandfather's naturalization record so I can see if it lists his specific town of origin.

I want to prove my Native American heritage and look in the Dawes Rolls so that I can apply for tribal membership.

I am looking for pension and bounty land records for my Revolutionary War ancestor, so I can learn more about the family and their migration after the war.

I want to find out if my ancestors were enslaved so I can better understand my family's past.

I want to find the land records of my great-great grandparents who were homesteaders in Iowa, so I can see if the records give me any new information about the family.

I want to find a picture of the Navy ship that my father served on in WW2, so I can use it to illustrate my biography about him.

I want to find the casualty record for my brother in the Vietnam War, so I can share it with his wife and children.

"I am excited to research my family history."